

State of New Jersey

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## Highlands Council Welcomes 15th Member

Chester, NJ- The New Jersey Senate Judiciary Committee approved Governor Codey's nomination of Bergen County Freeholder Liz Calabrese as the 15<sup>th</sup> member of the New Jersey Highlands Council.

Elizabeth Calabrese was elected to the Bergen County Board of Chosen Freeholders in 2004. As a councilwoman in Wallington, she has served her community since 2000.

"I am delighted to welcome Liz Calabrese to the Highlands Council," said Council Chairman John Weingart. "As a County Freeholder, she will add another voice from local government to our deliberations while also ensuring that issues relevant to Bergen County receive full consideration."

Highlands Council Vice Chairman Jack Schrier said, "Freeholder Calabrese's appointment is warmly welcomed. During our first year, Council members have been keenly aware that the Bergen County seat was vacant," he continued. "That prompted the rest of us to ensure that, even without a representative, the interests of Bergen's two Highlands municipalities were always considered in our deliberations. I trust that Ms. Calabrese will prove to be another valuable addition to our outstanding Council."

"The members of the Highlands Council are to be commended for their conscientious dedication and outstanding work. It is clear that they are keeping the best interests of the entire Highlands region and the State of New Jersey foremost in their deliberations," said Freeholder Calabrese. I am honored to be able to join the Council adding a long awaited voice to Bergen County in the process. Though we have only two important municipalities within the Highlands, the source of much of our drinking water for the nearly 900,000 residents of Bergen comes from the Highlands region. The people of Bergen have a vested interest in a well-balanced approach to planning in the Highlands that preserves the quality of our drinking water for generations to come."

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